## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6932

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EIND, ETRD, OECD, CIEC, EEC

SUBJ: CIEC RAW MATERIALS COMMISSION: INTRA-EC

DEBATE ON TACTICS.

REF: A. GENEVA 1577; B. BONN 3421

1. MUELLER-THUNS DISCUSSED GERMAN VIEWS ON COMMODITY POLICY ISSUES WITH EMBOFFS ON FEB. 27 AND CITED COMMISSION'S PROPOSED PAPER FOR GROUP B AS AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT HE CONSIDERED TO BE THE COMMISSION'S TENDENCY TO TAKE POSITIONS IN INTERNATIONAL FORA WHICH DID NOT REFLECT THE VIEWS OF MEMBER COUNTRIES. MUELLER-THUNS TOLD US THAT FRG ATTEMPTS TO MODIFY THE PARAGRAPH QUOTED IN PARA. 1 REF. A WERE REJECTED AT A PREVIOUS EC EXPERTS MEETING, AND THAT THE COMMISSION WAS ON CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT DAY TABLING ITS PAPER AT A GROUP B MEETING IN

GENEVA AS THE COMMUNITY'S RECOMMENDED POSITION PAPER FOR GROUP B COUNTRIES.

2. JUDGING FROM REFTEL, MUELLER-THUNS' IMMEDIATE CONCERNS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN EXAGGERATED. EVEN SO, MFA DEPUTY ASST. SEC. DITTMANN DESCRIBED EC POLICY DIFFERENCES AS ACUTE WHEN DISCUSSING THEM WITH ECON/COMM. MINISTER ON MARCH 3. DITTMANN WAS, HOWEVER, SOMEWHAT MORE SANGUINE THAN MUELLER-THUNS ABOUT THE PROSPECTS FOR EC COORDINATION ON COMMODITY POLICY. HE THOUGHT THAT THE MINISTERS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF PRONK, WERE REASONABLE MEN PREPARED TO WORK OUT THESE DIFFERENCES OF VIEW, AND MOREOVER, THAT THESE DIFFERENCES WERE MORE OFTEN QUESTIONS OF PHRASEOLOGY THAN REAL, SUBSTANTIVE DIFFERENCES, ESPECIALLY WHEN THE SELF-INTEREST OF THE PARTIES BECAME INVOLVED.

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